



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 2 October 1968



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THE PRESIDENT'S
DAILY BRIEF
2 OCTOBER 1968

1. Communist China

Peking's National Day celebrations yesterday were used to reaffirm the current policy of stabilization. Speeches by Lin Piao and Chou En-lai were notable mainly for the slight attention given to Vietnam, a major theme last year.

On domestic affairs, both men gave short shrift to the Red Guards and indicated that the industrial workers backed by the army now have the leading role in society. Mao was present at the rally but as usual did not speak.

2. Czechoslovakia

The Czechs have taken several more steps to comply with Moscow's demands. Barracks and apartments are being provided for the occupation troops, "anti-Socialist" Western press correspondents are being told to get out, and Czech students are being warned to keep a "cool head" and not offend the Russians.

3. Poland

The Polish military, badly divided over the Czech venture, is getting a partial housecleaning. A number of high-ranking officers have been shunted to secondary slots and some 25 new generals are about to be appointed. The losers, of course, are the diehard nationalists who spoke out against Poland's role in the invasion.

4. Philippines

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] The government probably also stimulated the work slowdowns at US bases and the boycotts of Malaysian and British products. These are all part of the Marcos game of building up the Sabah issue into a cause célèbre to boost his chances for re-election.

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5. West Germany -
France

[REDACTED]

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6. Israel

Labor Party Secretary General Pinhas Sapir has apparently superseded Deputy Prime Minister Allon as the heir apparent to Prime Minister Eshkol.

The naming of Allon as deputy prime minister last June aroused speculation that he was being groomed to take over when Eshkol decides to step down. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Eshkol was seriously annoyed with Allon's arranging, apparently on his own initiative, a meeting with President Johnson last month. [REDACTED]

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FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

- 1.) Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
- 2.) North Vietnamese Reflections of U S
Political Attitudes



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2 October 1968

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Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
for the President's Eyes Only

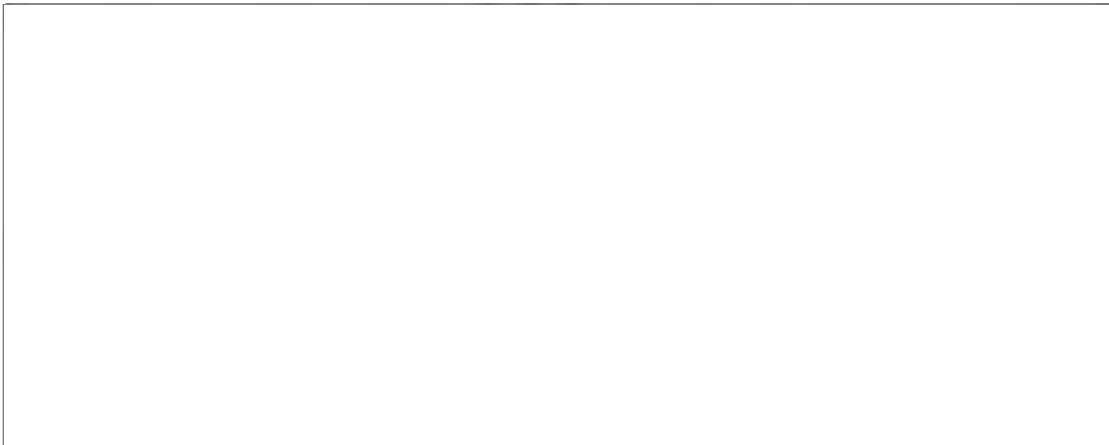
2 October 1968

I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION



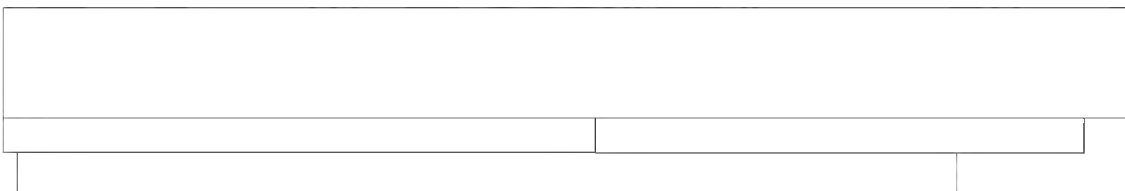
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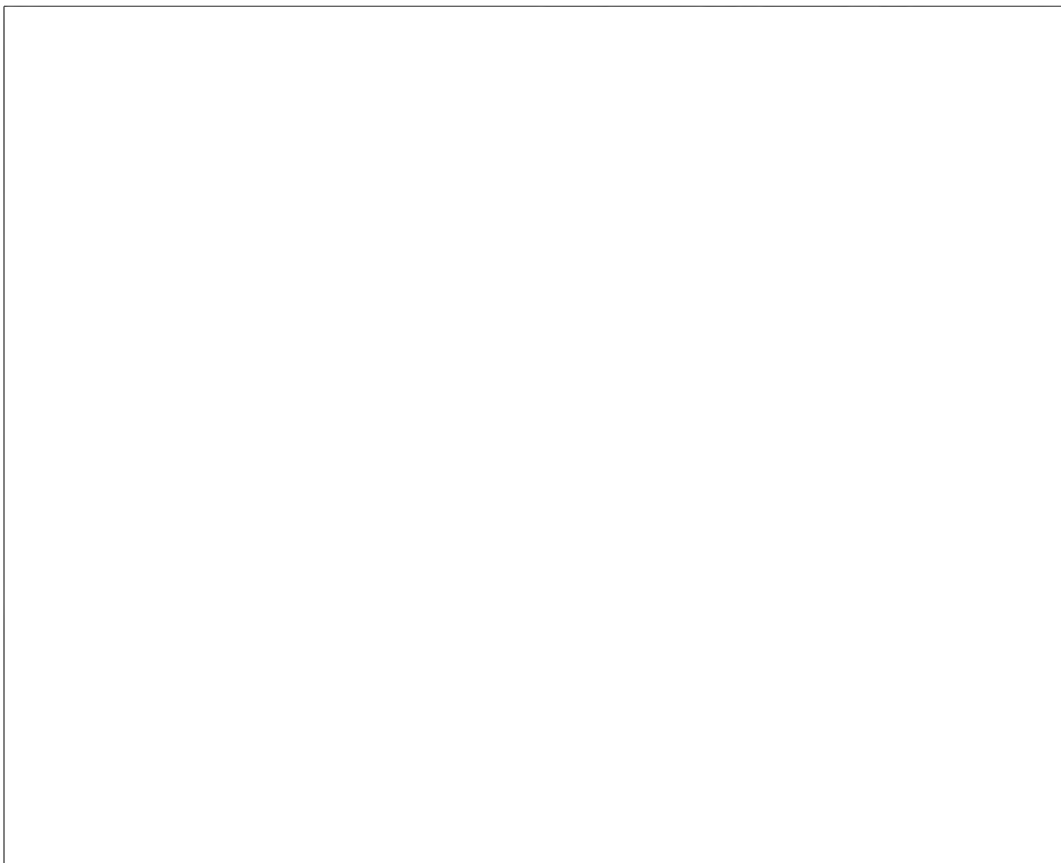
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II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL ATTITUDES ON THE WAR

Comment on Humphrey Speech: The first North Vietnamese reaction to Vice President Humphrey's speech of 30 September has come from Paris. According to Western press accounts, Le Duc Tho said yesterday, "There is nothing new here. It is still the same demand for reciprocity which we reject."



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According to the press, North Vietnamese spokesmen also said it was necessary to see what the reaction to the speech was in the US. "We should expect President Johnson to undercut his Vice President again," they said.

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